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FIERY LS DEBATE ON PAHALGAM ATTACK

Rajnath Singh, defence minister

Today, dossiers have been replaced by decisive action. Today's India thinks differently and acts differently

S Jaishankar, foreign minister

At no stage in any conversation with the US was there any link with trade or military operations

Gaurav Gogoi, Congess

India has the courage to listen to the truth on how many jets were downed, the govt must answer

Supriya Sule, NCP (SP)

Sindoor is not a success till you find those terrorists. Until you catch the terrorists, it cannot be celebrated

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Pak warned of retaliation in case of fresh misadventure, Congress demands accountability

No more dossiers: Rajnath to Pak

JAYANTH JACOB @ New Delhi

ANY future misadventure from Pakistan would trigger the immediate resumption of Operation Sindoor, which was only "paused" after achieving its strategic objectives and not under any external pressure, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said on Monday during a fiery Lok Sabha debate brimming with political heat, as the Opposition mounted pressure over the Pahalgam terror attack.

"Today, dossiers have been replaced by decisive action. Today's India thinks differently and acts differently. We believe that if the adversary uses terrorism as part of strategy and does not understand the language of peace, then standing firm and being decisive is the only option," Singh said.

"Operation Sindoor is a symbol of our strength," Singh said. "India first extends a hand of friendship, but knows how to twist the wrist if betrayed." He underscored the operation's success, saying that the armed forces conducted an effective strike on nine terror sites across Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir.

"The attacks were non-escalatory and carried out with utmost precision," he told the House, defending the rationale and execution of the military action. "If Pakistan indulges in fresh misadventure, it will resume again," Singh asserted.

Responding to President Donald Trump's claims of mediating a ceasefire, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar intervened in the debate to clarify: "At no stage in any conversation with the US was there any linkage with trade or military operations. There was no call between PM Modi and President Trump from April 22 to June 17." Home Minister Amit Shah, too, stepped in, asking the Opposition why they placed more faith in the words of a foreign leader than in India's own External Affairs Minister.

Singh further stated that no critical Indian assets were lost and India has concrete evidence of the damage inflicted on terror infrastructure in Pakistan.

Launching a searing counter-attack, Congress Deputy Leader in Lok Sabha Gaurav Gogoi questioned the very premise of the government's triumphalism. He demanded answers on why Shah had not accepted responsibility for the security failures that led to the Pahalgam killings, which claimed 26 civilian lives.

"They are calling Operation Sindoor a success while also admitting Pakistan may strike again. Then how is this a success?" Gogoi asked. He pressed the government for details on how many Indian fighter jets were lost. "We have only 35 Rafale jets. If any were downed, the country deserves to know."

PAHALGAM ATTACK MASTERMIND KILLED

FAYAZ WANI @ Srinagar

SECURITY forces on Monday gunned down wanted Pakistani terrorist Suleman alias Hashim Musa, the mastermind and executioner of the April 22 attack on tourists in Pahalgam, Jammu and Kashmir. Two more Pakistani militants with suspected links to the Pahalgam attack were also killed in the encounter in the upper reaches of Dachigam forest area in Harwan, Srinagar, sources said. A security official said after receiving inputs about the presence of 2-3 militants, the Army, police and paramilitary forces launched Operation Mahadev to track the hiding militants down.

Hashim Musa

"The communication device used by militants led security forces to them. A satellite phone used in Baisaran on April 22, was found active in the upper reaches of Dachigam forest. Once it was confirmed militants were hiding in the dense forest area, specially trained para commandos also joined the operation. Drones and other surveillance gadgets were used to pinpoint the militant location," the official said.

Shah assails Cong for not trusting Jaishankar

Home Minister Amit Shah on Monday rapped the Congress for not trusting the statement of foreign minister S Jaishankar on Op Sindoor and instead going by US President Donald Trump's claims. "They (opposition) do not have faith in the minister. They trust some other country...," he said in a brief intervention when Jaishankar was speaking

Tharoor opts out of speaking on Op Sindoor

Shashi Tharoor declined a Congress invite to speak on Operation Sindoor in Parliament, choosing instead to focus on the Indian Ports Bill, 2025. Speculation had mounted over whether Tharoor would be selected to speak after his endorsement of the government's response to the Pahalgam terror attack reportedly strained his ties within the Congress | **P9**

SC POSER TO JUSTICE YASHWANT VARMA

A bench of Justices Dipankar Datta and A G Masih asked the judge why he appeared before the in-house inquiry panel if he had questions about its remit | **P9**

Include Aadhaar, voter ID for SIR, says SC

SUCHITRA KALYAN MOHANTY @ New Delhi

PRESUMPTION OF GENUINENESS

"As far as ration cards are concerned we can say they can be forged easily but Aadhaar and voter cards have some sanctity and have presumption of genuineness," the bench said

THE Supreme Court on Monday refused to stay the publication of the draft electoral roll in Bihar on August 1 but asked the Election Commission to include Aadhaar and voter ID in the list of acceptable documents in the ongoing special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls.

On Sunday, the EC had said the first phase of the SIR was over and it received enumeration forms from 92% of voters. The poll panel plans to publish the draft roll on August 1 and final roll on September 30.

Senior advocate Gopal Sankaranarayanan, appearing for the Association for Democratic Reforms, sought the court's intervention and pass a direction to stop the notification of the draft list. He also alleged in his submission that the EC was not considering the SC's suggestion in the last hearing on July 10 that Aadhaar, electoral photo identity card (EPIC) and ration cards be considered as valid documents for SIR.

Senior lawyer Rakesh Dwivedi, appearing for the EC, said there were reservations about these documents, adding that many fake ration cards were found to have been issued.

A bench of justices Surya Kant and Joymalya Bagchi, however, suggested that two documents be considered on the 'presumption of genuineness', adding that there should be 'en masse inclusion' instead of 'en mass exclusion'.

While the court refused to stay publication of the draft list, it said it would examine the case in a detailed manner. The bench also made it clear that the court could strike down the entire process if any illegality was found.

Dharmasthala whistleblower identifies 13 'burial' sites

DIVYA CUTINHO @ Mangaluru

THE probe into the Dharmasthala mass burial case entered a crucial phase, with the Special Investigation Team (SIT) on Monday launching groundwork and the witness-complainant identifying 13 sites where he claims to have buried or cremated bodies.

The team carried out a spot inspection of the alleged burial sites in Dharmasthala village, Belthangady taluk, Dakshina Kannada, in the presence of the whistle-blower amid heavy security.

The witness-complainant arrived at the SIT office in Belthangady around 11.30 am on Monday, covering his face and accompanied by his legal counsel. After being questioned for an hour by investigating officer Jitendra Kumar Dayama and completing some documentation work, he was first taken to the Nethravathi bathing ghat area where he showed a spot related to the case. He then led the SIT officials to an area densely covered with bushes and trees besides Nethravathi river and showed some alleged burial sites. **CONTINUED ON P4**

EXPRESS READ

Govt revokes suspension of Dayananda, 3 officers

Bengaluru: The state government on Monday revoked the suspension of former Bengaluru city police commissioner **B Dayananda** and former deputy commissioner of police (Bengaluru Central) Shekar H Tekkannavar and reinstated them with "immediate effect". Former Cubbon Park assistant commissioner of police C Balakrishna and inspector AK Girish have also been reinstated | **P3**

Nimisha Priya's death sentence may be revoked

Kozhikode: The death sentence of Nimisha Priya, currently lodged in a Yemeni jail, may be revoked, according to information received by the office of Kerala-based Sunni leader Kanthapuram AP Abubakar Musliyar on Monday. In a Facebook post on Monday night, Mustawafy said, "An agreement has been reached to revoke the death sentence and to have more discussions to determine other matters" | **P5**

Ramya seeks action after Darshan fans abuse her

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

Ramya shows her petition submitted to the police commissioner on Monday | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

FORMER MP and actress Ramya on Monday sought action against fans of actor Darshan Thoogudeepa for sending "scandalous, ghastly, offensive, obnoxious and vulgar" messages to her on Instagram from various accounts.

She submitted a petition to Bengaluru Police Commissioner Seemant Kumar Singh, while the Karnataka State Commission for Women (KSCW) also wrote to the police commissioner, directing him to act against those posting derogatory messages to Ramya on social media. The Film Industry for Rights and Equality (FIRE) and several other organisations, besides many actors, extended their support to Ramya.

The actress has compiled details of 43 accounts, from which miscreants have given her rape and death threats. A few accounts are also in the name of women. The actress was targeted after she shared an article about Supreme Court proceedings in the bail hearing of actor Darshan and others, who are the accused in the murder of Renukaswamy. Ramya had stated that Renukaswamy's family should get justice.

The Central division CEN police registered an FIR against all the 43 accounts mentioned in Ramya's complaint. The case has been registered under Sec 66 and 67 of IT Act and 351(2), 351(3), 352, 75(1)(4), and 79 of BNS. Ramya had given the IDs of all the 43 accounts and one of the accused has been identified as Pramod Gowda. **P3**

Darshan is solely responsible for all such online abuse. He must have advised his fans. Though I have acted with him, I am not in touch

Ramya

BREAKING BARRIERS

Divya new GM on-board with WC title

SWAROOP SWAMINATHAN @ Chennai

IN a clash billed as one between generations, a generational talent has walked away with the women's chess World Cup. In the end, the handshake was symbolic of what the win meant within the wider context of Indian women's chess. For so long, Koneru Humpy and D Harika have been the torchbearers of the board game from an Indian perspective.

Over the last two weeks, Divya Deshmukh quietly emerged from the shadows of these two giants to etch her name in indelible ink. Just after 2.30 PM local time in Batumi (4.00 PM IST) on Monday, the 19-year-old teen scaled another height as she became India's first ever women's World Cup winner (2nd after Viswanathan Anand).

Just to give you a sense of the enormity of her achievement, when the Nagpur resident boarded the flight to Georgia, she didn't have a single GM norm. Yet, over the course of the last two weeks, she beat four GMs in as many as matches to not only win the the crown but become the country's 4th woman GM (88th overall). After the two game Classical final was drawn, the feeling was Humpy would have an edge. Humpy, of course, is the defending women's world rapid champ.

But Deshmukh held her own with the white before forcing Humpy to resign when the latter had the white pieces in the second of the first pair of tiebreak games. As soon as the 38-year-old offered her hand, Deshmukh placed both her hands over her eyes and wept inconsolably. Skipping school to spend a week in Chennai once every month to attend R B Ramesh's coaching sessions. Trading in a normal life for one spent studying the benefits of the London system at 3.00 PM.

"I think it was fate that I got the grandmaster title this way because before this, I didn't even have one norm. Before this event, I was thinking, "where can I get a norm?", and now I'm a GM!" she told FIDE. **P15**

Divya Deshmukh (R) and Koneru Humpy with their trophies and medals after the final on Monday | FIDE/ANDREI ANOSOV

It definitely means a lot, but there's a lot more to achieve. So, hopefully, this is just the start

Divya Deshmukh
World Cup winner

Insurance Bhi, Savings Bhi
Dreams
Goals
Responsibilities
Security
My Regular Premium Plan!
Presenting LIC's
NAV JEEVAN SHREE
UIN: 512N387V01
Plan No.: 912
Regular Premium Payment Plan
Assurance
Comfort
Independence
Security
My Single Premium Plan!
Presenting LIC's
Nav Jeevan Shree
Single Premium
UIN: 512N390V01 • Plan No.: 911
Single solution to achieve our goals
Guaranteed Additions payable as a percentage of Tabular Annual Premium without taxes.
Limited Premium Payment Term.
Attractive Premium Payment Terms of 6/8/10/12 years.
Policy Term Options : 10 to 20 years.
Attractive Benefits for Existing Policyholders
One Time Premium Payment
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